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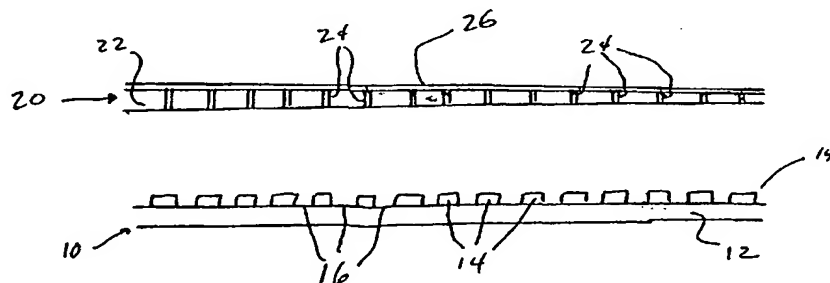
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(54) Title: PARALLEL LOADING OF ARRAYS



(57) Abstract: The present inventions provides an apparatus (20) and method for the parallel loading of multiple samples in a microarray (10) containing a plurality of sub-arrays (14). The method makes use of a microarray (10) containing multiple sub-arrays (14), a loading channel array (20), and a fluid handling robot or an assembly robot or machine.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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PCT/US03/30841

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C12Q 1/68; C12M 1/34

US CL : 435/6, 286.2-286.5, 287.2, 287.9, 288.4, 297.5; 436/46, 180; 422/63, 65, 68.1, 100, 101, 102

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y --- A	US 5,545,531 A (RAVA et al.) 13 August 1996 (13.08.1996), see entire document.	1, 14-18 ----- 2-13
Y --- A	US 6,083,763 A (BALCH) 04 July 2000 (04.04.2000), see entire document.	1, 14-18 ----- 2-13
A	US 5,677,195 A (WINKLER et al.) 14 October 1997 (14.10.1997), see entire document.	1-18
A	US 6,143,496 A (BROWN et al.) 07 November 2000 (07.11.2000), see entire document.	1-18



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